

Application No. 10/023,408
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 31, 2003

B. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In order to better assist the Examiner with the prosecution of the case, the current pending claims have been included in their entirety for which allowance is requested. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.:

 1. (original) A method for billing for telephone services, said method comprising:

receiving, at at least one service provider within a trusted telephone network, a request for service from an origin device associated with a line number to be billed according to a line subscriber billing plan;

authenticating an identity of a caller requesting said service from said origin device; and

replacing said line subscriber billing plan with a caller billing plan associated with said caller, wherein said caller billing plan is accessible according to said authenticated identity.

2. (original) The method for billing for telephone services according to claim 1, wherein authenticating an identity of a caller further comprises:

authenticating said identity of said caller according to a voice utterance provided by said caller.

Docket # AUS920010838US1

Application No. 10/023,408
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 31, 2003

3. (original) The method for billing for telephone services according to claim 1, wherein authenticating an identity of a caller further comprises:

initiating authentication of said identity of said caller at said origin device.

4. (original) The method for billing for telephone services according to claim 1, wherein authenticating an identity of a caller further comprises:

initiating authentication of said identity of said caller at an intermediary device receiving said request for service.

5. (original) The method for billing for telephone services according to claim 1, wherein authenticating an identity of a caller further comprises:

initiating authentication of said identity of said caller at a destination device, wherein said destination device is enabled for call receipt.

6. (original) The method for billing for telephone services according to claim 1, further comprising:

receiving said request for service from said origin device at an intermediary device;

initiating a register for said request for service;

accessing a line subscriber profile associated with a line number providing access for said origin device;

loading said line subscriber profile into said register; and

Docket # AUS920010838US1

Application No. 10/023,408
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 31, 2003

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in response to accessing a caller profile according to said identity of said caller, replacing at least a portion of said line subscriber profile with said billing plan specified for said caller in said caller profile.

7. (original) The method for billing for telephone services according to claim 6, further comprising:

switching said call from said register associated with a first service provider within said intermediary device to a register associated with a second service provider within said intermediary device, wherein said second service provider provides said billing plan for said caller.

8. (original) The method for billing for telephone service according to claim 6, further comprising:

controlling at least one particular service provided for said call request according to said at least one particular service selected in a caller profile accessible according to said authenticated identity of said caller.

9. (original) A system for providing telephone services, said system comprising:

a trusted telephone network comprising at least one service provider;

means for receiving, at said at least one service provider, a request for service from an origin device associated with a line number to be billed according to a line subscriber billing plan;

Docket # AUS920010838US1

Application No. 10/023,408
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 31, 2003

means for authenticating an identity of a caller requesting said service from said origin device; and

means for replacing said line subscriber billing plan with a caller billing plan associated with said caller, wherein said caller billing plan is accessible according to said authenticated identity.

10. (original) The system for providing telephone services according to claim 9, further comprising:

means for assigning a register at said at least one service provider to said request for service;

means for accessing said line subscriber billing plan according to said line number;

means for loading said line subscriber billing plan into said register; and

means for replacing said line subscriber billing plan in said register with said caller billing plan in said register.

11. (original) The system for providing telephone services according to claim 9, further comprising:

means for accessing said caller billing plan from at least one data storage system comprising at least one from among a data storage system within said trusted telephone network and a data storage system outside said trusted telephone network, wherein an additional level of security is required for accessing said data storage system outside said trusted telephone network.

Docket # AUS920010838US1

Application No. 10/023,408
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 31, 2003

12. (original) The system for billing for telephone services according to claim 9, wherein said means for authenticating an identity of a caller further comprises:

means for authenticating said identity of said caller according to a voice utterance provided by said caller.

13. (original) The system for billing for telephone services according to claim 9, wherein said means for authenticating an identity of a caller further comprises:

means for initiating authentication of said identity of said caller at said origin device.

14. (original) The system for billing for telephone services according to claim 9, wherein said means for authenticating an identity of a caller further comprises:

means for initiating authentication of said identity of said caller at an intermediary device receiving said request for service.

15. (original) The system for billing for telephone services according to claim 9, wherein said means for authenticating an identity of a caller further comprises:

means for initiating authentication of said identity of said caller at a destination device, wherein said destination device is enabled for call receipt.

16. (original) The system for providing telephone services according to claim 9, further comprising:

means for authenticating said identity of said caller at a telephone service server outside said trusted telephone network.

Docket # AUS920010838US1

Application No. 10/023,408
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 31, 2003

17. (original) The system for providing telephone services according to claim 9, further comprising:

means for supplementing at least one service provided for said call request according to said line number with at least one service associated with a profile accessing according to said authenticated identity for said caller.

18. (original) A computer program product for providing telephone services, said computer program product comprising:

a recording medium;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for enabling receipt, at at least one service provider, of a request for service from an origin device associated with a line number to be billed according to a line subscriber billing plan;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for authenticating an identity of a caller requesting said service from said origin device; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for controlling replacement of said line subscriber billing plan with a caller billing plan associated with said caller identity.

19. (original) The computer program product for providing telephone services according to claim 18, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for assigning a register at said at least one service provider to said request for service;

Docket # AUS920010838US1

Application No. 10/023,408
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 31, 2003

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means, recorded on said recording medium, for accessing said line subscriber billing plan according to said line number;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for loading said line subscriber billing plan into said register; and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for controlling replacement of said line subscriber billing plan in said register with said caller billing plan in said register.

20. (original) The computer program product for providing telephone services according to claim 18, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for accessing said caller billing plan from at least one data storage system comprising at least one from among a data storage system within said trusted telephone network and a data storage system outside said trusted telephone network.

21. (original) The computer program product for billing for telephone services according to claim 18, wherein said means for authenticating an identity of a caller further comprises:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for authenticating said identity of said caller according to a voice utterance provided by said caller.

22. (original) The computer program product for billing for telephone services according to claim 18, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for initiating authentication of said identity of said caller at said origin device.

Docket # AUS920010838US1

Application No. 10/023,408
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 31, 2003

23. (original) The computer program product for billing for telephone services according to claim 18, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for initiating authentication of said identity of said caller at an intermediary device receiving said request for service.

24. (original) The computer program product for billing for telephone services according to claim 18, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for initiating authentication of said identity of said caller at a destination device, wherein said destination device is enabled for call receipt.

25. (original) The computer program product for providing telephone services according to claim 18, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for authenticating said identity of said caller at a telephone service server outside said trusted telephone network.

26. (original) The computer program product for providing telephone services according to claim 18, further comprising:

means, recorded on said recording medium, for supplementing at least one service provided for said call request according to said line number with at least one service associated with a profile accessing according to said authenticated identity for said caller.

27. (original) A method for billing a caller for telephone services, comprising:

Docket # AUS920010838US1

Application No. 10/023,408
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 31, 2003

receiving a request for service from a caller utilizing a particular line number from among a plurality of line numbers;

authenticating an identity of said caller; and

accessing a billing plan for said caller according to said authenticated identity, wherein said billing plan follows said caller across a plurality of line numbers.

28. (original) The method for billing a caller for telephone services according to claim 27, wherein said particular line number is subscribed to by said caller.

29. (original) The method for billing a caller for telephone services according to claim 27, wherein said particular line number is subscribed to by an individual other than said caller.

30. (original) A system for billing a caller for telephone services, said system comprising:

a trusted telephone network for enabling a call;

means for receiving a request for service at said trusted telephone network from a caller utilizing a particular line number from among a plurality of line numbers;

means for authenticating an identity of said caller; and

means for accessing a billing plan for said caller according to said authenticated identity, wherein said billing plan follows said caller across a plurality of line numbers.

31. (original) The system for billing a caller for telephone services according to claim 30, wherein said particular line number is subscribed to by said caller.

Docket # AUS920010838US1

Application No. 10/023,408
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 31, 2003

32. (original) The system for billing a caller for telephone services according to claim 30, wherein said particular line number is subscribed to by an individual other than said caller.

33. (original) A computer program product for billing a caller for telephone services, said computer program product comprising:

a recording medium;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for enabling receipt of a request for service at said trusted telephone network from a caller utilizing a particular line number from among a plurality of line numbers;

means, recorded on said recording medium, for authenticating an identity of said caller;
and

means, recorded on said recording medium, for accessing a billing plan for said caller according to said authenticated identity, wherein said billing plan follows said caller across a plurality of line numbers.

34. (original) A method for controlling billing for a call, comprising:

receiving an authenticated caller identity and billing plan associated with said authenticated caller identity for a call, wherein said billing plan comprises a plurality of account providers for said authenticated caller identity;

monitoring said call for chargeable services utilized during said call; and

Docket # AUS920010838US1

Application No. 10/023,408
Reply to Office Action of Oct. 31, 2003

negotiating payment for said chargeable services from said at least one account provider according to said authenticated caller identity.

35. (original) The method for controlling billing for a call according to claim 34, further comprising:

filtering said billing plan according to a context for said call, wherein a selection of said plurality of account providers are determined relevant for said call according to said context.

36. (original) The method for controlling billing for a call according to claim 34, further comprising:

prompting a caller of said authenticated caller identity to select from among said plurality of account providers for said call.

37-81 (cancelled).

Docket # AUS920010838US1